



## **Southern District of Texas**

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## News Release



February 22, 2007

## WOMAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR AIDING AND ABETTING THE FILING OF A FALSE TAX RETURN

(HOUSTON) Deanna Ellen Dick has been sentenced to prison for knowingly making a false claim against the United States by aiding and abetting the filing of a false income tax return, United States Attorney Don DeGabrielle announced today.

Convicted on September 12, 2006 after pleading guilty to the federal tax felony violation, Dick was sentenced this morning to 30 months in federal prison, without parole, by United States District Judge David Hittner. The prison term is to be followed by a three-year term of supervised release.

The indictment filed in the record of the case accused Dick of aiding and abetting others and being aided and abetted by others to make

and present 28 electronically-prepared false 2001 U.S. Individual Income Tax Returns, forms 1040A, to the IRS. Some of the tax returns were filed in the names of deceased people and others in the names of living people, including minors. A total of \$115,625 in refunds generated by the 28 false electronically-filed tax returns were deposited, minus small handling charges, into accounts belonging to and controlled by Deanna Ellen Dick at a credit union and at a bank according to the indictment.

At sentencing, the court held Dick responsible for aiding and abetting the filing of a total of 75 false tax returns seeking tax refunds for the 2001 tax year. Judge Hittner further ordered Dick to pay restitution in the amount of \$245,100 to the United States.

This matter was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles J. Escher and investigated by IRS Criminal Investigation.

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